

BILL #5283

To Whom it May concern:

I'm writing you today in support Bill #5283. As a resident and taxpayer of Connecticut, and parent of High school children enrolled in an agricultural program I strongly urge you to pass this bill.

My kids have thrived at the Ellis Clark Regional Agriscience and Technology Program @ Nonnawaug High School. I have two daughters currently enrolled, and one recently graduated from the program. This program is amazing. It teaches our children to care for animals, our plants, our environment. It gives them opportunities you can't find in your average academic high schools. For example, hands on with the animals, farming, natural resources, and the equipment used in so many different agricultural fields. One take away from the Covid pandemic is how vital the agricultural industry is for all people. We should encourage and give are children the opportunity to learn about agriculture.

On a personal note, the agriscience program has helped my oldest daughter with the pursuit to follow her dream in becoming a veterinarian. She graduated second in her high school class last year and is now going to University of Findlay for Pre-vet. The education and the experience with animals she received from the agriscience program at Nonnawaug has given her a valuable and great start to a long journey to becoming a veterinarian. My second daughter will be graduating this June and wants to further her education in the field of Meteorology and Atmospheric science. Her goal is to better predict weather patterns to help the farming industry to produce better crops. Here are two examples of students that I can honestly say took full advantage of the Agriscience program provided to them. My third daughter is currently a freshman in the program, and I can't wait to see what her future has in store for her.

So, please pass this bill so the funding will be there for my daughter's future and all the other students looking for an Agriculture Education.

Thank you,

Lynanne Kostka